

FREDERICK COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS

The Bourne Building
355 Montevue Lane, Suite 101
Frederick, MD 21702
Telephone: 301-600-8683 FAX: 301-600-2344

MINUTES of the April 5, 2017 Monthly Meeting of The Frederick County Board of Elections

The meeting was called to order at 12:31 PM, in Room 108 of the Bourne Building at 355 Montevue Lane by the Board President, Mrs. Mary Lou Green.

PRESENT:

Mary Lou Green, President	Stuart Harvey, Election Director
Mark P. Jeffers, Jr., Vice President	Noreen L. Schultz, Deputy Director
Lawrence C. Hill, Secretary	Marc R. Welch, Election Administrative Assistant
Carlotta C. Joyner, Board Member	
William L. Woodcock, Board Member	
Daniel B. Loftus, Board Attorney	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MARCH 8, 2017 BOARD MEETING:

Mr. Woodcock moved to approve as written the minutes of the March 8, 2017 board meeting. Mr. Jeffers seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS:

Mr. Otis discussed the upcoming budget plans and requested updates from Mr. Harvey so he can properly represent the Board at County Council meetings.

ELECTION DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Harvey reports that Staff is moving ahead on work for the City of Frederick 2017 Municipal Election. Mr. Harvey mentioned the next election director's meeting will be at the State Board of Elections office on April 20, 2017.

OLD BUSINESS

FY17 BUDGET UPDATE:

Mr. Harvey reported that reservations for the MAEO conference were mistakenly charged in full to the wrong budget category. Mr. Harvey provided an overview of the budget transfer process and said the funds will be transferred from the Office Supplies category to the Travel/Training category, pending approval by the County Council.

CITY OF FREDERICK 2017 MUNICIPAL ELECTION:

Preparations for the City of Frederick elections continue. Mr. Harvey reports that language on the absentee ballot application is being updated to reflect current City election law.

Mrs. Schultz has sent a list of 145 County election judges who reside, or served in the City in the 2016 election, to city officials. The City will send letters to those judges to recruit them to serve in the City election.

Mr. Harvey is working with Phyllis Hane to set up an election calendar, including scheduling election judge training classes. Training classes will incorporate lessons learned from 2016 where they are consistent with City election law.

Equipment hauling will likely be handled by City of Frederick Department of Public Works, pursuant to State guidelines.

Jodye Roebuck is working on the election judge training manual and curriculum.

SBE will design and build ballots, and the City will pay for printing. Mr. Harvey mentioned that if there's only one candidate for mayor and 5 or fewer alderman candidates in a particular party that file for office, there won't be a primary election held for that party. Additionally, City election law does not provide for a non-partisan ballot, so there's no primary election for voters who are not registered with either the Republican or Democratic Party.

City of Frederick officials will provide our office with written precinct boundary descriptions. City law doesn't require it, but written descriptions will ensure people are placed in the correct City precinct. Our office will review the city's street files and update the city's new precinct boundaries based on these boundary descriptions.

POST ELECTION MAINTENANCE:

Post-election maintenance on pollbooks, and voting system equipment is complete and PEM has begun on voting booths, to identify booths which need repairs. Once complete, work will begin on general warehouse cleaning.

2017 GENERAL ASSEMBLY BILLS:

Mr. Harvey briefed the board on the following bills before the Maryland General Assembly:

HB0073	Election Law - Election Judges - Minimum Age and Minimum Compensation	Passed.
HB0143	Elections - Miscellaneous Duties and Procedures	Passed.
HB0169 (SB0091)	State Board of Elections - Open Meetings - Video Streaming and Recording (State Board of Elections Transparency Act)	Unlikely to pass.
HB0353	Election Law – Change in Administrative Policy Affecting Voting Rights - Notice	Likely to pass.
HB0529	Election Law - Political Parties, Candidacy, and Campaign Finance	Passed.
HB0532	Election Law - Qualification of Voters - Proof of Identity	Failed in House; withdrawn

(SB1133)		in Senate
HB0619 (SB0882)	Election Law - Campaign Signs at Polling Places	Senate Bill passed both houses. House Bill on 2 nd Reader.
HB1626	Election Law – Early Voting – Registered Voter Updating the Voter’s Address on an Existing Registration	Passed House, likely to pass Senate.
SB0406	Election Law – Voting System – Digital Scanners	Passed Senate, unlikely to pass House.
SB0423 (HB0345)	Elective Franchise – Registration and Voting at Polling Place	Passed Senate, likely to pass house w/ amendment.
SB0550 (HB0976)	Frederick County – Ethics Requirements and Campaign Activity Concerning the County Executive and County Council	Unlikely to pass.
SB0882 (HB0619)	Election Law – Campaign Signs at Polling Places	Likely to pass.
SB1023 (HB1631)	Independent Congressional Redistricting Commission – Mid-Atlantic States Regional Districting Process	Passed Senate, will possibly pass House.
SJ0002 (HJ0002)	Constitutional Convention – Amendments – Repeal	Passed.

(Mr. Otis exits @ 1:40pm)

MAEO:

Mrs. Schultz reminded the Board that reservations and payment for guests are now due.

Items to sell at the silent auction are needed. The silent auction will benefit the MAEO Education Fund. The Board will be providing a table centerpiece decoration which will be given away as a door prize.

The office will be closed during MAEO, June 6, 2017 through June 9, 2017.

VOTER REGISTRATION VOLUNTEER TRAINING:

Staff conducted a Voter Registration Volunteer training session on March 22, 2017 for the Democratic Party. 23 people attended. Upcoming training classes will be held on April 13, 2017 at the monthly Republican Club meeting, and on May 17, 2017 at the Women’s Democratic Club meeting.

OTHER OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Harvey reminded the Board that Ethics forms are to be submitted by April 30, 2017.

NEW BUSINESS

MARCH 16 ELECTION DIRECTORS MEETING:

Mr. Harvey updated the Board regarding the State Board’s consideration of using only Expressvote BMDs during Early Voting. This would save on the cost of printing ballots, as well as avoiding ballot issuance problems with numerous ballot styles. There is concern that the BMD units are not rugged enough, take too much power to run, and are too easy to jam. Additionally, Counties would need as many BMD units as there are voting booths currently deployed during Early Voting. The “more” button software issue also has not been addressed.

The next Election Director's meeting is on April 20, 2017.

ANNAPOLIS SBE MEETING:

The mandatory biennial State Board of Elections meeting will be held in Annapolis on October 23, 2017 from 9am-5pm. This meeting is mandatory for the Board, Board Counsel, and Election Director.

MEMORIAL PLAQUE:

A plaque commemorating former members of the Frederick County Board of Elections is being prepared. The plaque will cost approximately \$125, with an additional per-name engraving fee. The Board discussed the starting year for the plaque, and Mr. Welch will begin researching names of past board members using the Maryland Manual online, and other resources.

SCHEDULE OF NEXT MEETING: The Board scheduled its next meeting for 10:00 AM on Tuesday May 16, 2017 in Room 108 of the Bourne Building at 355 Montevue Lane.

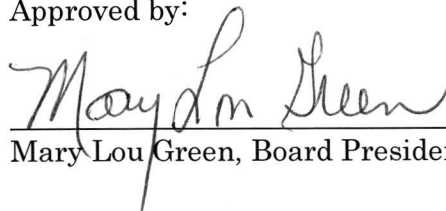
ADJOURNMENT AND EXECUTIVE SESSION: At 2:20 PM, Mr. Harvey requested that the Board meet in Executive Session in room 108 of the Bourne Building at 355 Montevue Lane. This action is in accordance with the authority granted under the Annotated Code of Maryland, State Government Article, Section 10-508 (a)(7) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter. Mr. Woodcock moved to adjourn the meeting and proceed to Executive Session. Mr. Hill seconded the motion and it was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc R. Welch
Election Administrative Assistant

Approved by:



Mary Lou Green, Board President

5-16-17

Date